



# ROLO UV Observations of the Moon: Nearside Mare Color Variations

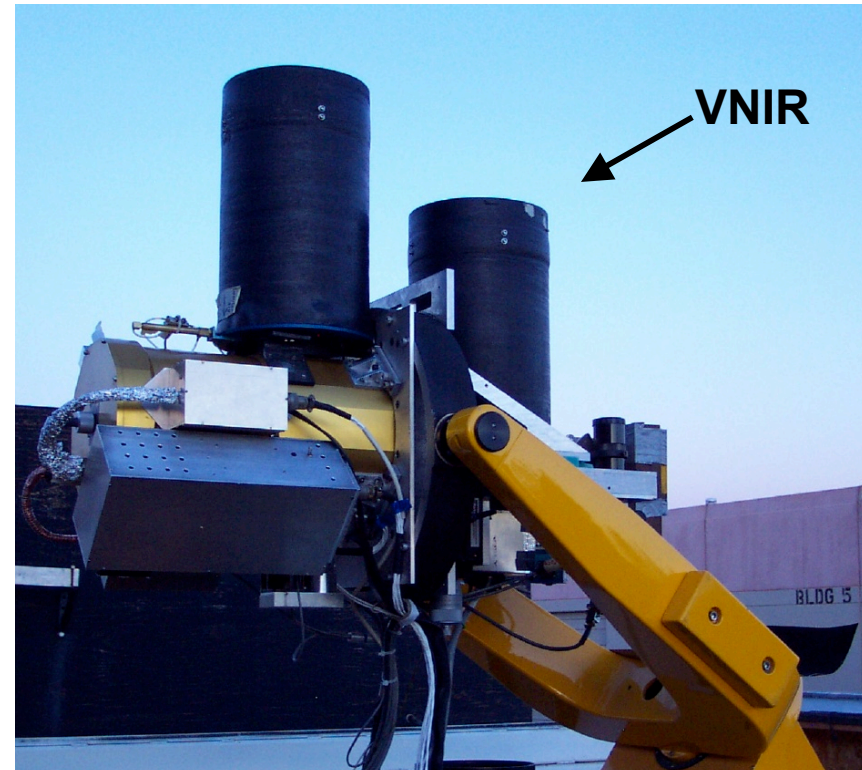
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Special Thanks to Tom Stone (USGS)

# RObotic Lunar Observatory

- VNIR: 23 bands
- Specific interest in UV 350 nm band
- ~7 km/px resolution
- 6+ years of radiance measurements
- Absolute calibration based on observations of Vega
- Atmospheric correction derived from nightly stellar extinction measurements

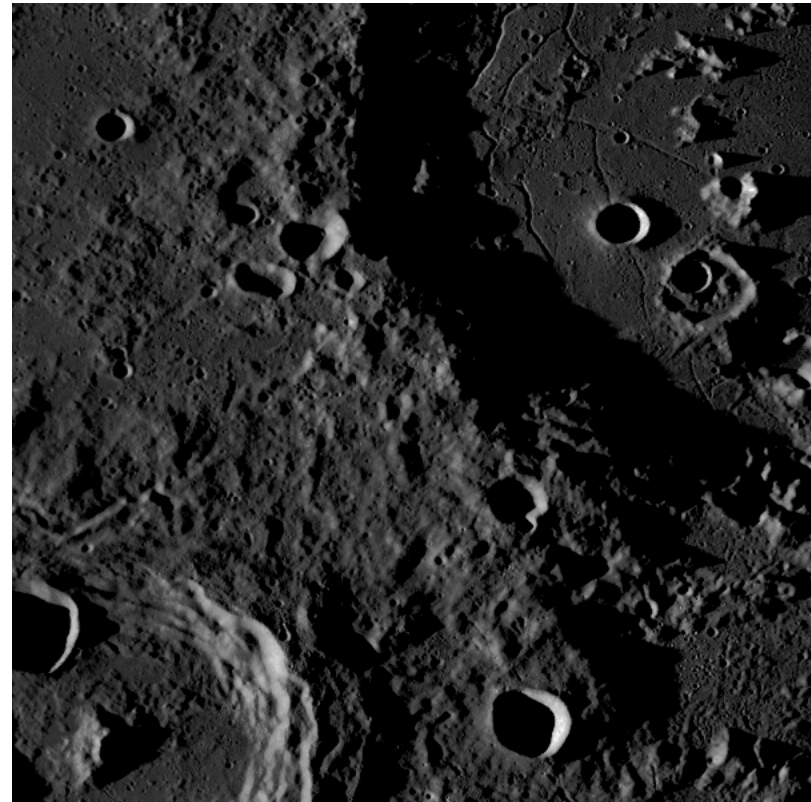


**ROLO at the USGS:**

**VNIR: 350-950 nm SWIR  
950-2450 nm**

# Goals

- Use ROLO data as a standard for calibration of the LROC WAC
- Examine geologic units in different ratios to interpret the context of surface composition and mineralogy
- Specific interest in UV wavelengths

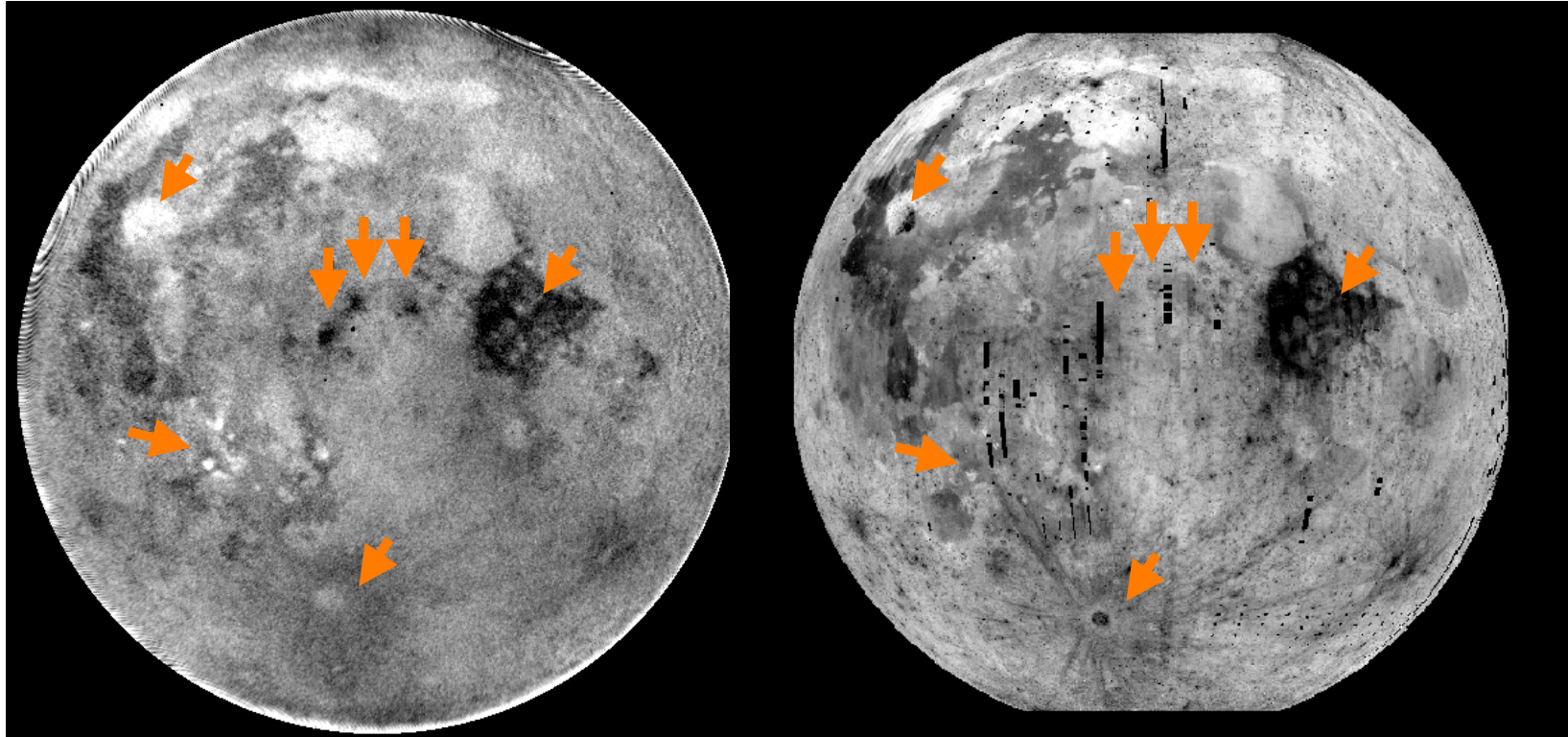


**Mosaic of craters Hahn (lower left) and Gauss (upper right), a floor-fractured crater, acquired by the Wide Angle Camera 560 nm filter. Scene is approximately 160 km across.**

[NASA/GSFC/Arizona State University]



# ROLO 415/350 vs Clem 750/415



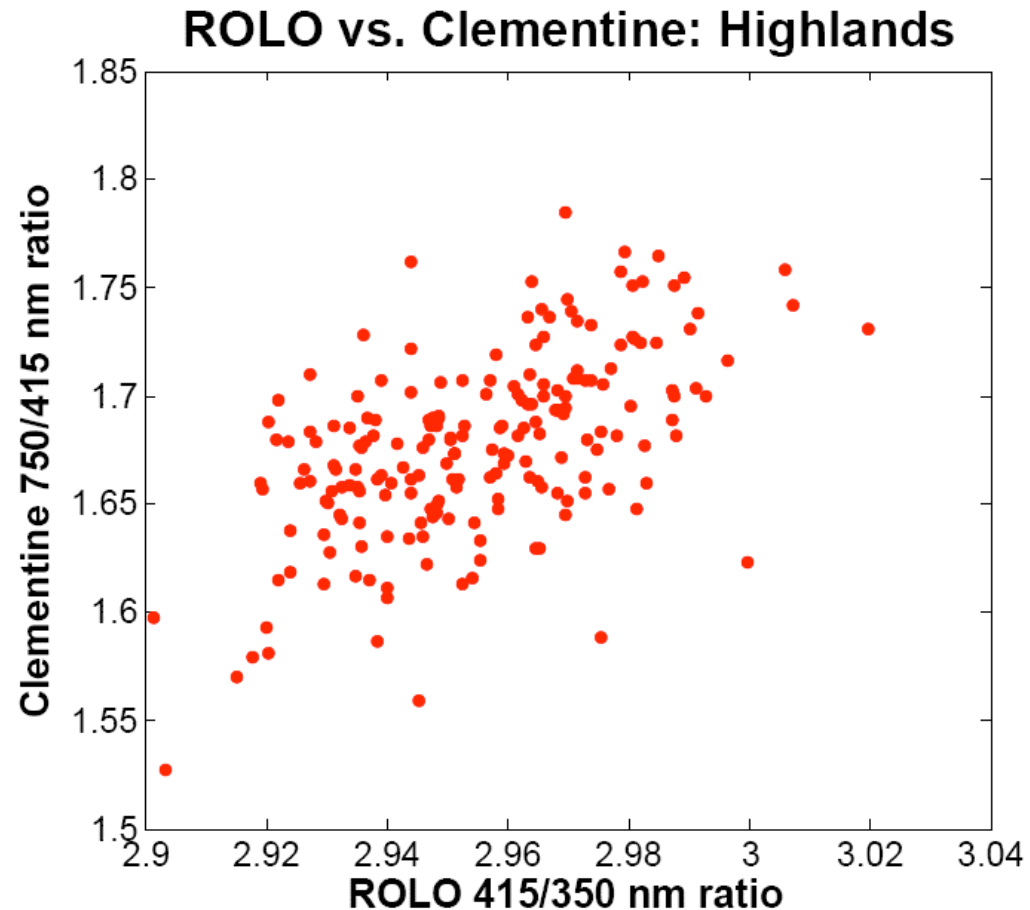
415/350 nm, ~0 phase angle

750/415 nm

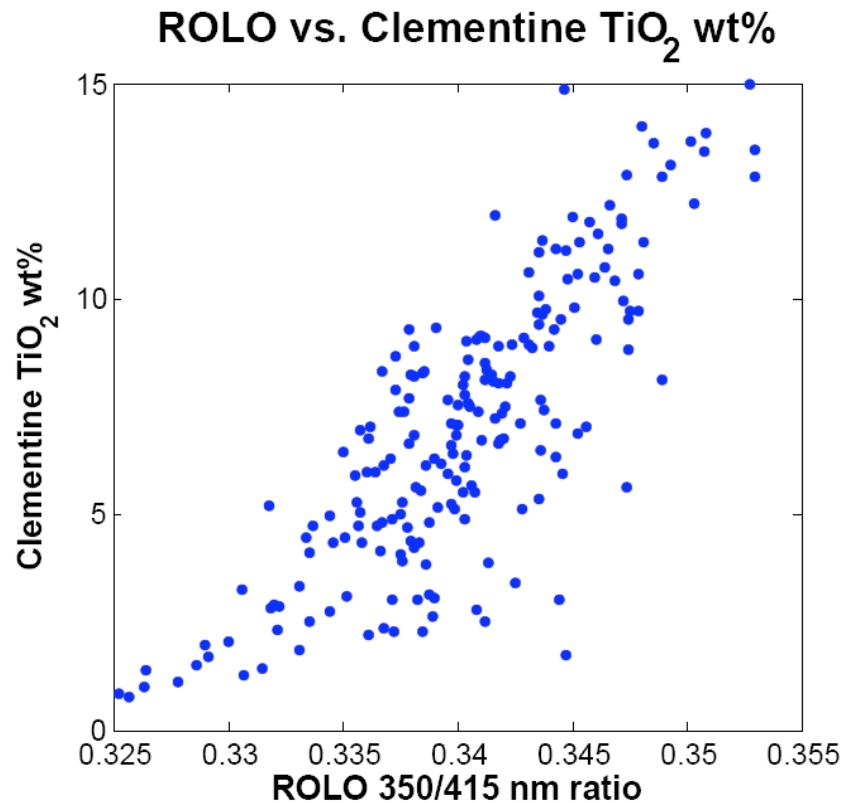
- Maturity not as visible in 415/350 ratio
- Distinct differences

# Clementine vs ROLO ratio

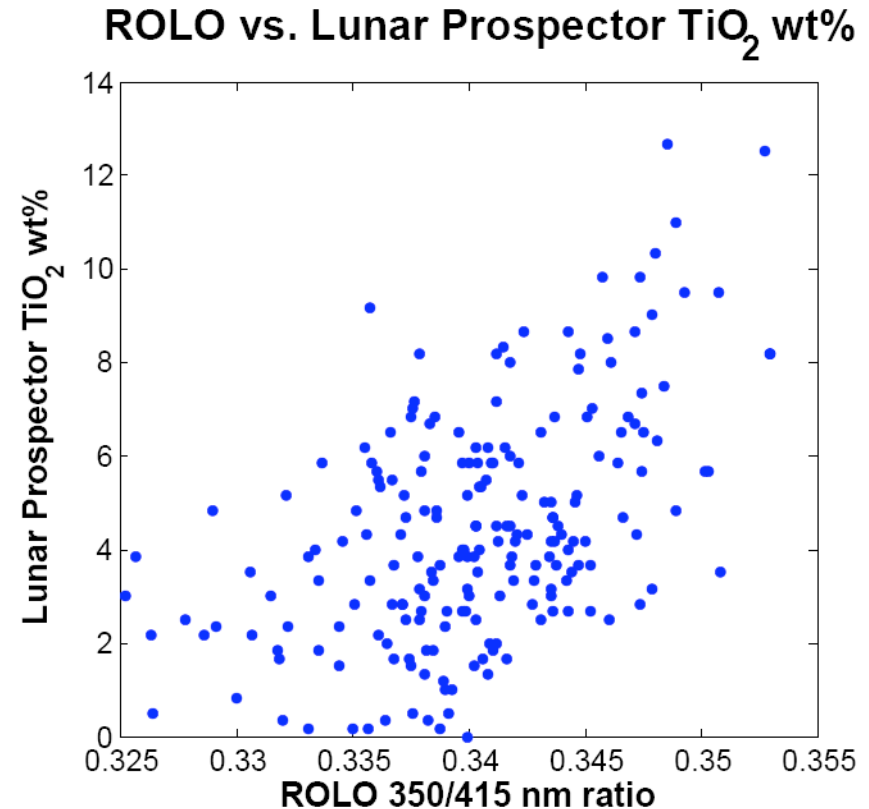
- Points are manually selected in each image
- 3x3 pixel boxes
- Mare:  $R^2=0.76$
- Highlands:  $R^2=0.32$



# Titanium Variation in Maria

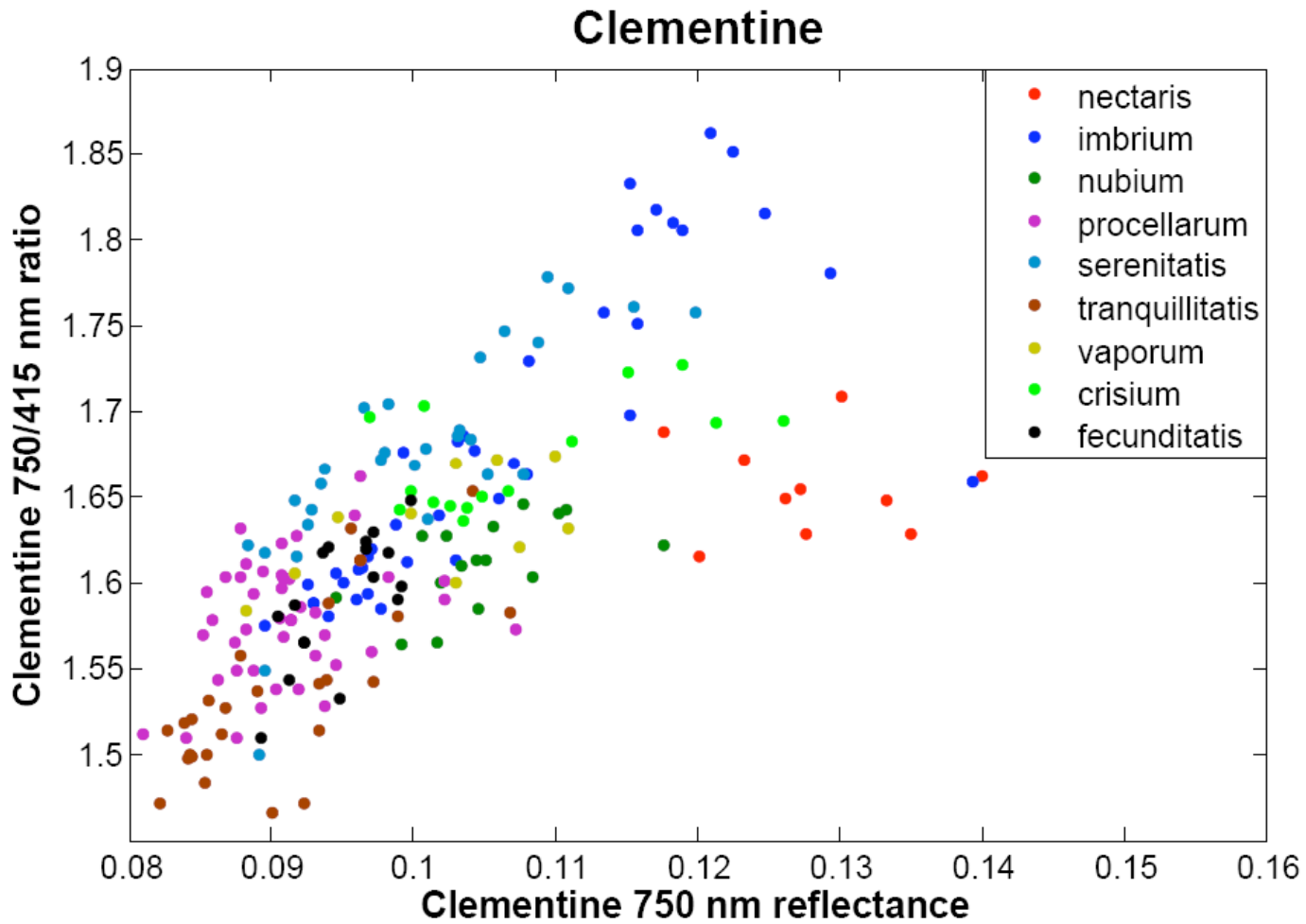


$$R^2=0.66$$



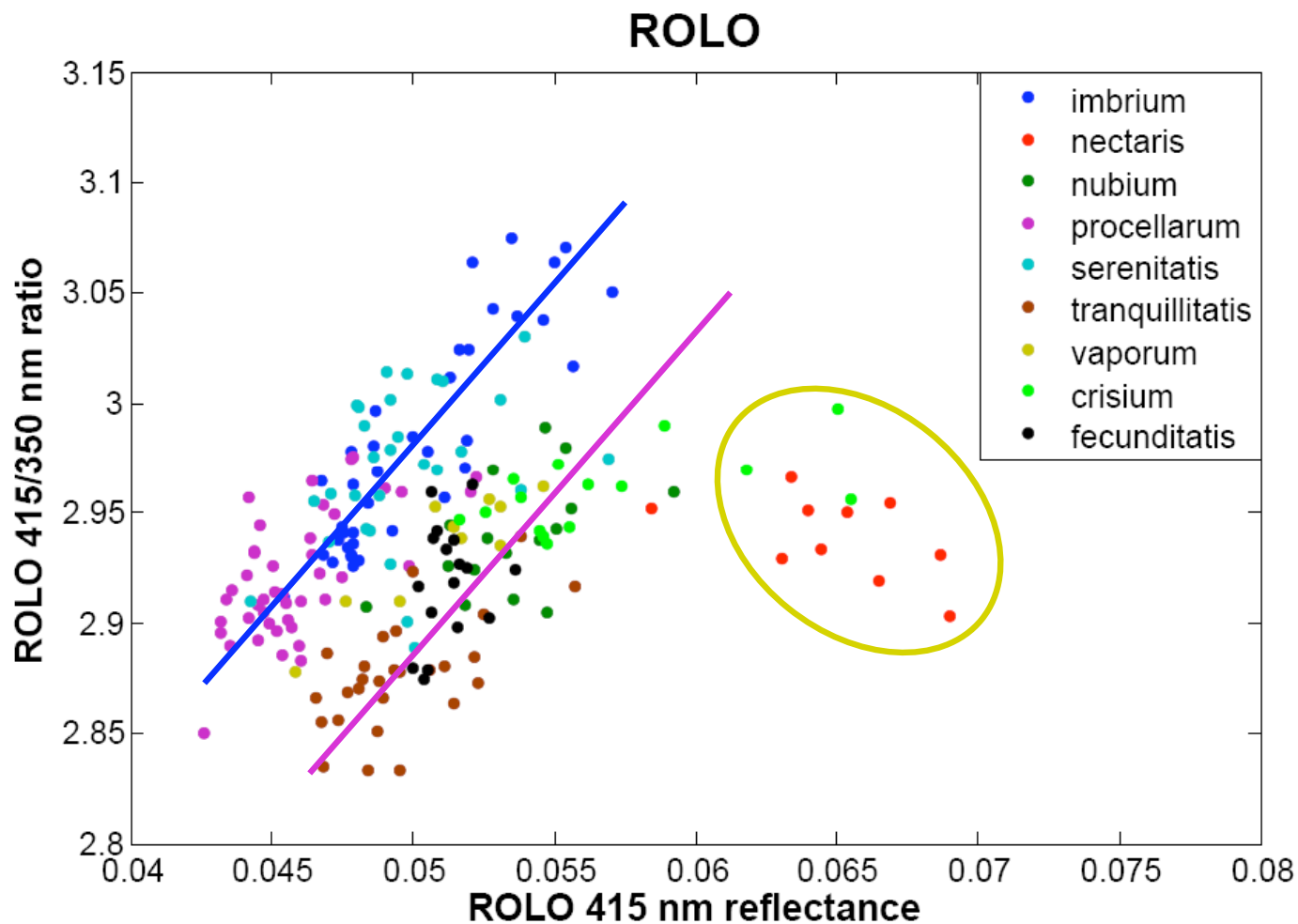
$$R^2=0.26$$

# Maria



Clusters of data points from mare regions overlap

# Maria

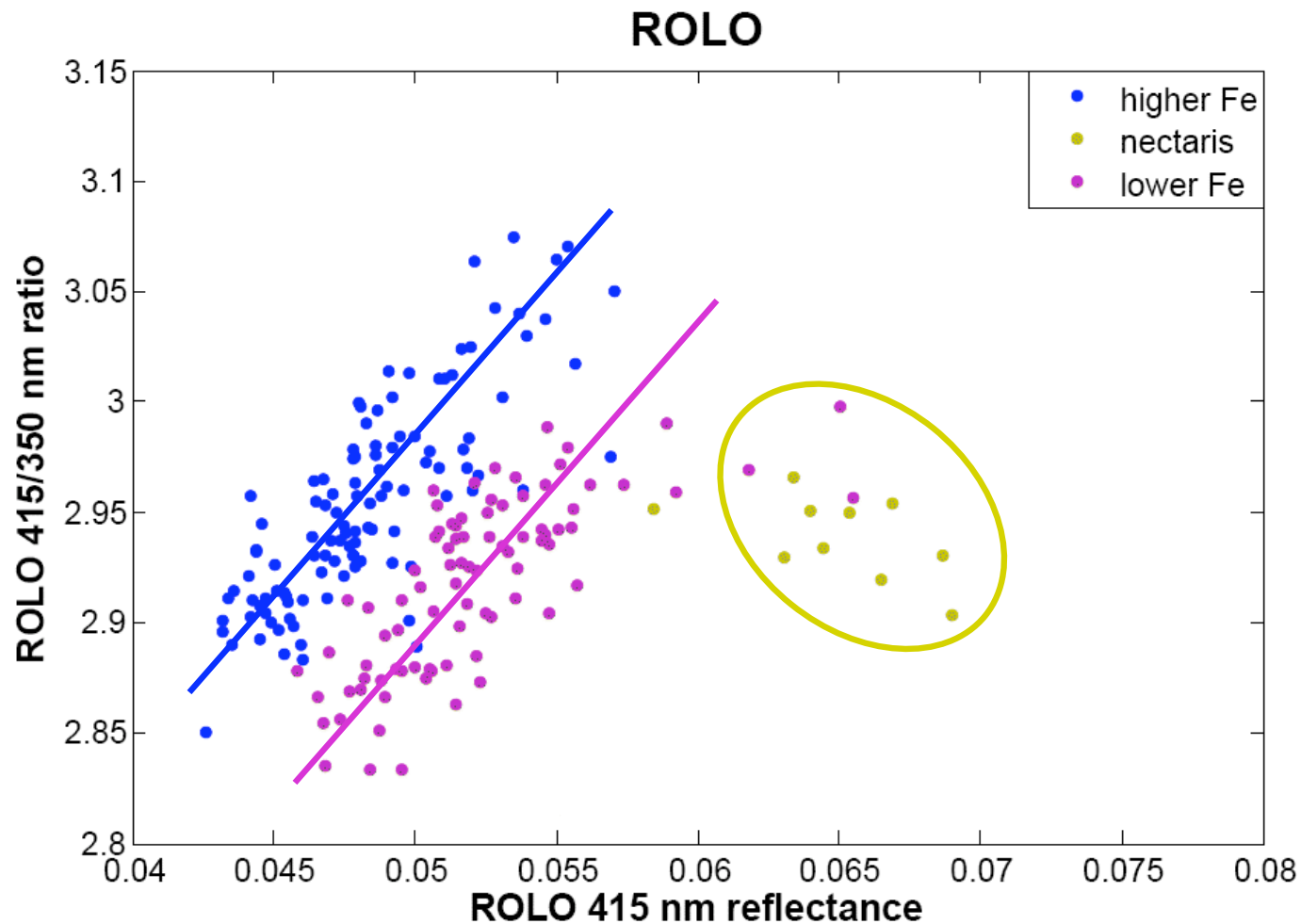


Clusters of data points form three distributions

Both distributions have similar ranges of Ti abundance



# Maria: Fe Trend

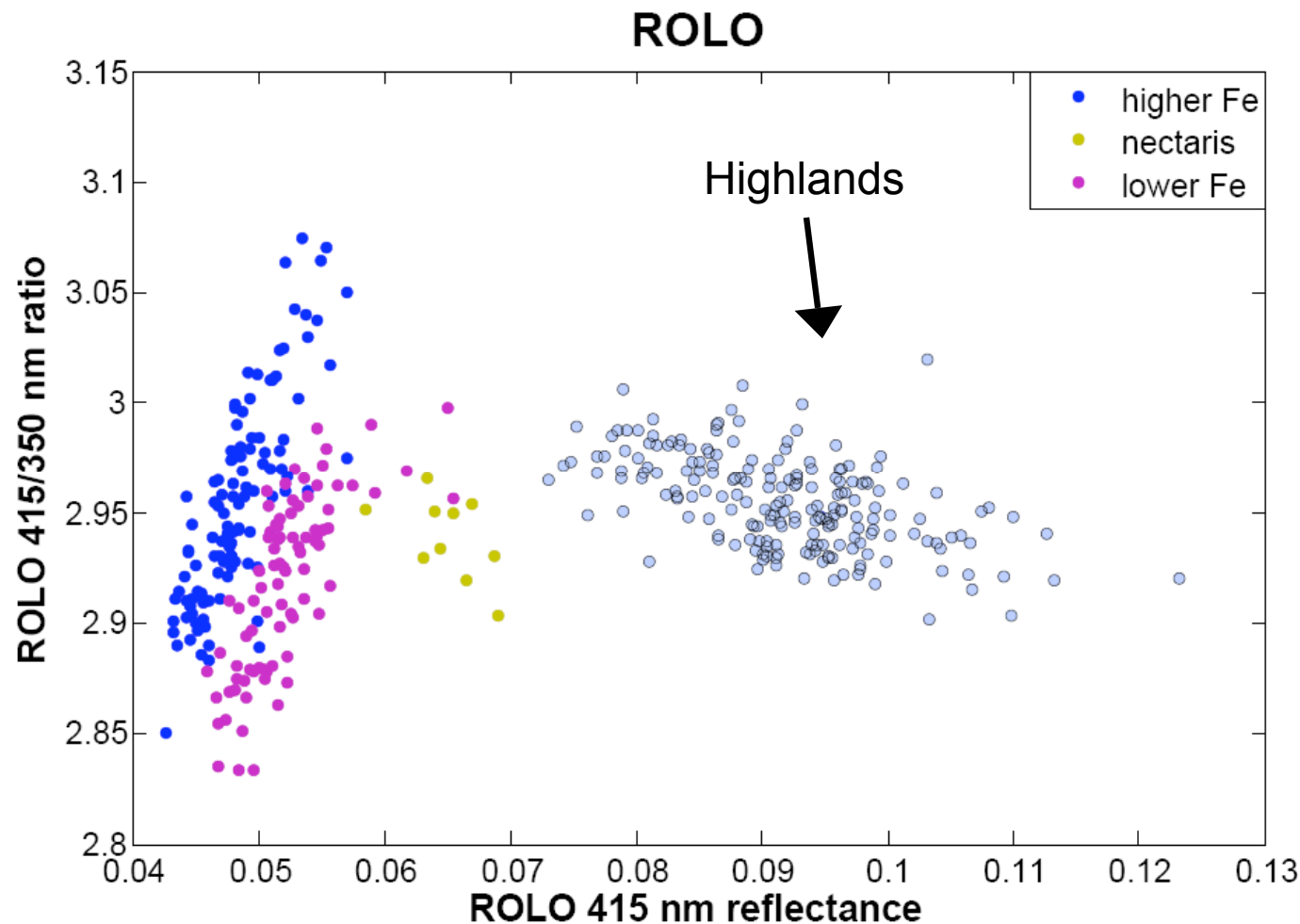


Procellarum,  
Serenitatis,  
and Imbrium  
points are high  
Fe: 16-25 wt%

Other maria  
are lower in  
Fe: 14-20 wt%

Mare Nectaris  
and parts of  
Crisium: low  
Fe and low Ti

# Maria and Highlands



Nectaris is intermediate between mare and highland ROLO color and iron content

# Conclusions



350 UV color contrast is useful for delimiting mare units – especially with relation to iron content



Only a small contrast for immature materials – related to space weathering, possibly nanophase iron



ROLO 415/350 nm VIS/UV ratio correlates to the Lucey Clementine TiO<sub>2</sub> wt% map



## Current Work

- UV photometric calibration for the LROC WAC
- Closer look at individual mare units